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APPLICATION NO.	F	ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.				
09/899,645		07/05/2001	Chun Ping Li	35718/235742 (5718-114) 772					
826	7590	10/18/2004		EXAMINER					
ALSTON BANK OF				KALLIS, R	RUSSELL				
		STREET, SUITE 40	00	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER				
CHARLOT	TE, NC 2	28280-4000		1638					

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/899,645	LI ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit
	Russell Kallis	1638
The MAILING DATE of this communication Period for Reply	appears on the cover sheet w	ith the correspondence address
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REI	PLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 N	1ONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATIO  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory per  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by state Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the material patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	N. R 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply within the statutory minimum of thi iod will apply and will expire SIX (6) MOI atute, cause the application to become A	reply be timely filed ty (30) days will be considered timely. NTHS from the mailing date of this communication. BANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
Status		
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05	5 August 2004.	
,	his action is non-final.	
3) Since this application is in condition for allow	wance except for formal mat	ters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice unde	er <i>Ex par</i> te Quayle, 1935 C.[	). 11, 453 O.G. 213.
Disposition of Claims		
4) Claim(s) 5-8,10-14,17,21,22,24-30 and 37-3	39 is/are pending in the appl	cation.
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withd	Irawn from consideration.	
5)⊠ Claim(s) <u>21,22 and 24-30</u> is/are allowed.		
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>5-8,10-14,17 and 37-39</u> is/are reject	cted.	
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.		
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and	d/or election requirement.	
Application Papers		
9) The specification is objected to by the Exam	iner.	
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) a	accepted or b) objected to	by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to t	he drawing(s) be held in abeya	nce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the corr	ection is required if the drawing	(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the	Examiner. Note the attached	d Office Action or form PTO-152.
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119		
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for forei	ign priority under 35 U.S.C.	§ 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:		, , , , , ,
1. Certified copies of the priority docume	ents have been received.	
2. Certified copies of the priority docume		opplication No.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the p		
application from the International Bure	•	3
* See the attached detailed Office action for a l		received.
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Attachmont(a)		
Attachment(s)  1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview 9	Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Praftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(	s)/Mail Date
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0	~~/ <u>—</u>	nformal Patent Application (PTO-152)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date	6) ⊠ Other: <u>se</u>	<u>uence report</u> .

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1-3 are cancelled. Claims 37-39 are newly added. Claims 5-8, 10-14, 17, 21-22, 24-30 and 37-39 are pending and examined.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments.

Rejection of Claims 5-8, 10-14, 17, 21-22, and 24-30 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments.

Rejection of Claims 5-8, 10-14, 17, 21-22 and 24-30 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 5-8, 10-14, 17 and 37-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a method of decreasing  $\beta$ -oxidation in a plant by introduction of an acyl-CoA thioesterase wherein the level of acyl-CoA thioesterase is increased and the level of oil is increased, does not reasonably provide enablement for a method of both decreasing or increasing  $\beta$ -oxidation in a plant by introduction of an acyl-CoA thioesterase wherein the level of acyl-CoA thioesterase is decreased and the level of oil is increased or an oil constituent in a plant. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

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The claimed invention is not supported by an enabling disclosure taking into account the *Wands* factors. *In re Wands*, 858/F.2d 731, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (Fed. Cir. 1988). *In re Wands* lists a number of factors for determining whether or not undue experimentation would be required by one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. These factors are: the quantity of experimentation necessary, the amount of direction or guidance presented, the presence or absence of working examples of the invention, the nature of the invention, the state of the prior art, the relative skill of those in the art, the predictability or unpredictability of the art, and the breadth of the claim.

Applicant broadly claims a method for decreasing  $\beta$ -oxidation in a plant transformed with a nucleic acid encoding an acyl-CoA thioesterase whereby the level of acl-CoA thioesterase is decreased or increased and the level of oil in the plant is increased.

Applicant teaches SEQ ID NO: 1 encoding SEQ ID NO: 2; and the specification provides guidance for methods of transforming and introducing DNA into a plant; methods of modulating acyl-CoA thioesterase activity; and methods of measuring  $\beta$ -oxidation and oil constituents in a plant.

Applicant does not teach a method of both increasing or decreasing acyl-CoA thioesterase expression in a plant that results in the decrease of  $\beta$ -oxidation and an increase in the level of oil or an oil constituent in a plant.

The state-of-the-art is such that one of skill in the art cannot predict whether both increasing and decreasing will result in the decrease of  $\beta$ -oxidation and an increase in the level of oil or an oil constituent in a plant. The unpredictability lies in the simple fact that in order for  $\beta$ -oxidation to increase, resulting in decreased oil levels, the activity of the acyl-CoA thioesterase

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must be limited; and for β-oxidation to decrease, resulting in increased oil levels, the activity of the acyl-CoA thioesterase must be increased (Harwood, J. L. *et al.* Biochemica et Biophysica Acta, 1996; Vol. 1301; pp. 7-56; see page 43, column 2, lines 3-5).

Given the lack of guidance in the instant specification, undue trial and error experimentation would be required for one of ordinary skill in the art to determine how to both increase or decrease acyl-CoA thioesterase activity such that either level of activity would result in a plant having decreased  $\beta$ -oxidation and an increased level of oil or oil constituent.

Therefore, given the breadth of the claims; the lack of guidance and working examples; the unpredictability in the art; and the state-of-the-art as discussed above, unduc experimentation would be required to practice the claimed invention, and therefore the invention is not enabled throughout the broad scope of the claims.

### Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Claims 5-8, 10-14, 17 and 37-39 are rejected.

Claims 21-22 and 24-30 are allowed

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Russell Kallis whose telephone number is (571) 272-0798. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amy Nelson can be reached on (571) 272-0804. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Russell Kallis Ph.D. October 8, 2004

PHUONG T. BUI

Sequence 5, Appli Sequence 5, Appli Sequence 1, Appli Sequence 1, Appli Sequence 20, Appl Sequence 20, Appl Sequence 17, Appl Sequence 11, Appli Sequence 12, Appli Sequence 12, Appli Sequence 25, Appli Sequence 3, Appli Sequence 25, Appli

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GENERAL INFORMATION:
APPLICANT: Allen, Seeve
APPLICANT: Ping, Chun
ITTLE OF INVENTION: Palmitoyl-Acyl-ACP Thioesterases in Plants
FILE APPLICANT: Ping, Chun
CURRENT EPPLICATION NUMBER: US/60/172,946
CURRENT FILING DATE: 1999-12-21
NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 13
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Sequence 1, Application US/09899645A

Sequence 1, Application US/09899645A

Sequence 1, Application US/09899645A

Sequence 1, Application US/09899645A

Sequence 1, Application England

APPLICANT: Zheng, Peizhong

APPLICANT: Michols, Scott

TITLE OF INVENTION: NUMBER: US/09/899,645A

CURRENT SPLICATION NUMBER: US/09/899,645A

CURRENT FILING DATE: 2000-07-06

NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 9

SOFWARE: PatentIn Ver. 2.1

LENGTH: 1169

TYPE: DNA

SOGGANISM: Zea mays

FRIOR TITLE

COGGANISM: Zea mays

SCATTON: US/09/899-645A-1

US-09-899-645A-1
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100.0%; Score 1169; DB 36;

Best Local Similarity 100.0%; Pred. No. 3.3e~205;

Matches 1169; Conservative C; Mismatches 0; I
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APPLICANT: Cao, VONGWei
APPLICANT: Edgerton, Michael D
APPLICANT: Edgerton, Michael D
APPLICANT: Edgerton, Michael D
APPLICANT: Edgerton, Michael D
APPLICANT: Edgerton, Joshua
TILE APPLICANT: Liu, Jingdong
TILE OF INVENTION: ODN SEQUENCES AND USES FOR PLANT IMPROVEMENT
FILE REFERENCE: 38-10 (22726)
CURRENT FILING DATE: 2052-08-15
PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/312,544
PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/312,544
PRIOR APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/312,544
NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 61520
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            100.0%; Score 1281; DS 33; Length 255; 100.0%; Pred. No. 3.9e-135; ive 0; Mismatches 0; Indels 0;
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APPLICANT: Allen, Steve
APPLICANT: Ping, Chun
TILE OF INVENTION: Palmitroyl-Acyl-ACP Thioesterases in Plants
FILE REFERENCE: BB1428 US PRV
CURENT APPLICATION NUMBER: US/60/172,946
CURENT APPLICATION NUMBER: US/60/172,946
NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 13
SOFTWARE: Microsoft Office 97
SEQ ID NO.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           ; Sequence 45254, Application US/10219999
; GENERAL INFORMATION:
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Best Local Similarity 96.84
Matches 239; Conservative
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Best Local Similarity 100.8
Matches 242; Conservative
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ORGANISM: Zea mays
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JS-60-172-946-2
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                                       1 MVHSLHAIFLVAGDNNIPIIYQVHRARDGSSFATRKVEAKOKGLVVFTLIASFOKEEVGF
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GRNEAL INFORMATION:
APPLICANT: Li, Chun Ping
APPLICANT: Li, Chun Ping
APPLICANT: Michols, Scott
ITLE OF INVENTION: METEOSE FOR REGULATING BETA-OXIDATION IN PLANTS
FILE REFERENCE: 35.18/235742
CURRENT APPLICATION NUMBER: 200,999,645A
PRICE APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/216,211
PRICE APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/216,211
PRICE RELING DATE: 2000-07-05
NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 9
SOFTWARE: Patentin Ver. 2.1
SEQ ID NO 2.
LENGTH: 242
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    0; Mismatches
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242; Conservative (
Matches 242; Conservative
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; ORGANISM: Zea mays
US-09-899-645A-2
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US-09-899-645A-2
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US-60-172-946-2
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